

The Middletown Transcript
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MIDDLETOWN, NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE
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THE LAW VINDICATED.

In the conviction of Col. E. T. Cooper in the U. S. Court on Tuesday law and justice has won a great victory. Col. Cooper is too good a lawyer not to have known what he risked in his deal with Teller Boggs. He could "guess" at what Boggs was doing in the use of Cooper's checks to the extent of thousands of dollars when Cooper had only a few pennies in the bank. Col. Cooper knew what he was doing when he bought Boggs' ticket and assisted him to escape. He knew all this; the great majority of the people now believe that he knew it and yet they expected the jury to disagree. And the jury did disagree but the sterling judicial qualities of a Bradford upon the bench insisted upon their greatest effort to reach a verdict and they did. That verdict was a compromise as many verdicts are, but it satisfies the law; it elevates morality; it is a credit to the State. All honor to the jury, to District Attorney Vandegrift, to Judge Bradford. The jury had a disagreeable task and took noble qualities of heart and mind to go through what they went through, and to vindicate the law as they have done. It is easy to do wrong; to do the right when sympathy and friendly ties and flesh and blood appeal to turn aside just for the once is no easy task. If there were no future all could wish that Col. Cooper could be vindicated or if not that then forgiven but Mr. Vandegrift said in his able address that had a crime a few years ago been punished in Kent county this had not happened; then for the future of the Diamond State it is good that justice be dealt out. We are sincerely sorry that the subject is one whom we have known from early childhood "as a genial goodfellow" but of whose course we have often disapproved. Of Col. Cooper we have nothing harsh to say and only utter what we do because we believe the State Press has been silent too long upon these matters. Let the press do its duty and the occasions for criticism will grow less and less.

Col. Cooper has two classes of sympathizers: one personal and proper, the other political and damnable. Zeke Cooper is a man to have warm friends and it is not natural that they stand by him and in misfortune stand by him the closer. To do otherwise would have been unnatural, unreasonable. Their sympathy may go so far that they believe him innocent of wrong doing, or at least not more guilty than others who escape which latter is undoubtedly true. These are friends in need and indeed. But the political friend to whom we refer is the one who expects a juryman to stand by him even in the jury box to the utter disregard of his oath. These friends are far worse in their guilt than is Col. Cooper. Believing a man is innocent a juror should maintain his position to his own discomfort, to believe an accused guilty but because of political association to vote for his acquittal is worse than ninety-nine out of a hundred crimes charged. It is a stab at the very foundation of civil liberty, of law and justice. The political editor who advocates, let it be ever so astutely, such doctrine is guilty of an offense that should put him outside decent society. There is not and cannot be any politics in all this Dover Bank affair. It is not because Col. Cooper is a Democrat that he has offended—his Democracy has nothing more to do with it than the Democracy and Republicanism of the jury who tried him or of the Judge and District Attorney, yes and of his own able counsel. These men but did their duty as citizens. They gave a lesson which should go far towards elevating our State politics, for that all parties—if not all men—have at times erred and the editors of the State should stand for law and right. While we do not believe there is or has been any politics in the Dover Bank cases. There have been efforts made to drag it in the mire of politics and by editors. We regret the results personally to Col. Cooper but we believe with the great majority of the people of the State that the verdict is just. Col. Cooper is young enough yet to redeem himself, to do honor to the honorable name he bears and in making that effort he should have the aid of all—for "that is without sin let him cast the first stone."

The battle ship Oregon, the largest and ablest vessel afloat, is reported to have arrived safely from her long cruise of 14,000 miles from San Francisco to join Sampson's fleet. The question is still, Where is the Spanish Navy? It seems to be a game of hide and seek with them. The fleets are said to be approaching each other in the waters of the West Indies and we have firm faith to believe that Sampson's victory will be second only to Dewey's, and that it will end the war when the two fleets fairly meet in battle. Terribly grand will be that engagement, but the stars and stripes will certainly float victorious. Americans are good fighters.

President McKinley called upon Delaware for 341 Volunteers and we answered with a full regiment of 1028 officers and men or three times our quota. This is a credit to the State, and Governor Tunnell and Adjutant General Harris are to be congratulated that the regiment is full. The men will do their full duty if ever they are called into an engagement, which we hope they never may believing that our gallant navy will end the war if given the opportunity. The best blood in the Diamond State is at Camp Tunnell and "the boys" will do Delaware proud whether on dress parade or upon sanguinary fields.

THAT BROTHER-IN-LAW.

"The war is advancing the price of necessities of life and Congress is laying a tax on many articles of consumption which will remain to harass the people for some time. There have been any national insult on the part of Spain requiring the United States, or justifying her to enter upon this conflict the war fever would have been general and not limited to individuals or localities. Thus far Delaware has not been able to fill her quota of soldiers, but the list of commissioned officials is overflowing."—Lewes Pilot.

"My mother-in-law" is a standing newspaper joke understood by all but "that brother-in-law" of our Governor rather sets the people to guessing. Read the above and guess on which side the Dr. held Gov. Tunnell responsible for any delay in filling the quota, or regiment, which is in fact three times the proportion of Delaware's quota of the 125,000 volunteers called for, but the Governor has had in his own hands the matter of commissions to officers and the implied criticism of "my brother-in-law" is really "the unkindest cut of all." What does it mean?

The Legislature still lives nor doth the end yet appear. On Thursday a prominent Democrat of Middletown sought the TRANSCRIPT scribe and suggested that the formal transfer of the First Delaware Regiment of War volunteers to the government would be much more impressive if a war incident were introduced. His idea was to catch the members of the General Assembly during their visit here, to shoot martial them, condemn them to be shot publicly as awful examples before the assembled people and thus effectually and permanently to adjourn that Legislature. No other hopes are apparent to him. The TRANSCRIPT man persuaded him that they were guests of the town and such an act would be forever to the discredit of the citizens here. There was a difference of opinion upon this point, hence the General Assembly escaped the proposed effective adjournment.

GLADSTONE DEAD.
The grand old man is dead. He passed away quietly at 5 o'clock on Thursday morning. England is in mourning to-day because one citizen has passed from earth and he had ceased his active labors some years ago because of age. But he had endeared himself to every Englishman by his noble life, his public service. There has been but one Gladstone and the whole world honors his name.

A Fruit Exhibit.
The Peninsula Horticultural Society, at its meeting in Snow Hill, last January, appointed a committee to secure local storage of small packages of fruit to be placed on exhibition at the next annual meeting of this society, the society to place charges of transportation and storage of such packages under the regulations of the committee.

The committee, acting under this authority, has made arrangements with the "Wilmington Abolition and Cold Storage Company," 216 and 234 Tenth street, Wilmington, Delaware, for the storage of such packages; and now gives this early notice of such action, that fruit growers in all parts of the Peninsula may begin at once to plan to prepare to furnish such exhibits.

Growers who desire to make exhibits should send notice without delay to the chairman of the committee, stating what kinds and varieties of fruits can be furnished. The committee suggests that several fruit growers in a neighborhood may combine in making arrangements for their exhibits. All should at once write the committee, and full directions as to style of package, time and manner of shipment, and all other necessary particulars, will be sent to the proposed exhibitors.

We greatly desire to make this exhibit an object lesson, that will not be forgotten, of great practical value to the fruits interests of the Peninsula.

SAMUEL H. DERRY, Chairman,
Woodside, Del. May 7, 1898.

Rose's Corn Bread Recipe.
Recently the TRANSCRIPT gave a recipe for making corn bread, there can be none better, but there was omitted one ingredient. The following is the correct recipe: One pint of four and one pint of corn meal mixed together, scald to the consistency of mush; mash all lumps and thin with milk as much as possible; add one egg, one-half cup of New Orleans Molasses, three table spoonsful sugar, salt to taste, two table spoonsful baking powder, bake in a low pan the batter being an inch thick, cook thirty minutes in a moderate oven.

Eliabeshi N. J., Oct. 19, 1896.
Ely Bros, Dear Sir: I accept my thanks for your favor in the gift of a bottle of Cream Balm. Let me say I have used it for years and can thoroughly recommend it for what it claims, if directions are followed.
Yours truly,
(Rev.) H. W. Hathaway.

No clergyman should be without it. Cream Balm is kept by all druggists. Full size 50c. Trial size 10c. Write to ELY BROS., 56 Warren St., N. Y. City.

A Clover Trick.
It certainly looks like it, but there is really no trick about it. Anybody can try it who has Lame Back and Weak Kidneys, Malaria or nervous troubles. We mean he can cure himself right away by taking Electric Bitters. This medicine tones up the whole system, acts as a stimulant to Liver and Kidneys, is a blood purifier and nerve tonic. It cures Constipation, Headache, Fainting, Spells, Sleeplessness and Melancholy. It is purely vegetable, a mild laxative, and restores the system to its natural vigor. Try Electric Bitters and be convinced that they are a miracle worker. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 60c a bottle at Dr. H. Vaughan's Drug Store.

THE TRANSCRIPT, \$1.00 per year.

COL. COOPER CONVICTED.

On the seventy-first ballot on Tuesday evening after being out seventy-four hours the jury to try Ezekiel T. Cooper for aiding and abetting W. N. Boggs in looting the First National Bank of Dover brought in a verdict of guilty on the forty-sixth count of the indictment. It appears from reports that the jury was about evenly divided between guilty and not guilty. The vote is said to have been at one time seven for conviction and five for acquittal. The verdict is one of compromise, as many verdicts are, and was accompanied with a recommendation of mercy to the Court. The punishment is imprisonment not longer than two years and a fine from \$1000 to \$10,000 in the discretion of the court.

The count of the indictment upon which the jury agreed to convict is as follows: 46—And the grand jurors aforesaid, upon their respective oaths and affirmations respectively do further present: That Ezekiel T. Cooper, late of the district of Delaware, a woman, on the twenty-first day of November, A. D. eighteen hundred and ninety-six, at the district aforesaid, did knowingly, wilfully, unlawfully and fraudulently conspire with one William N. Boggs to commit an offense against the United States for the purpose hereinafter stated, and to the manner and by the means following, that is to say, he, the said William N. Boggs was then and there teller of a certain national banking association, as "The First National Bank of Dover," which said association had been therefore duly organized and established, and was then existing and doing business at the town of Dover, in the State of Delaware, aforesaid, under the laws of the United States, and the said Ezekiel T. Cooper, and the said William N. Boggs, teller as aforesaid, did then and there knowingly, unlawfully and fraudulently conspire together to willfully misapply a certain large amount of the moneys, funds or credits belonging to the said association, then and there with intent in them, the said Ezekiel T. Cooper and the said William N. Boggs, to injure and defraud the said association, for the use, benefit and advantage of him, the said Ezekiel T. Cooper, that is to say, a certain check was on or about the twenty-first day of November, A. D. eighteen hundred and ninety-six, drawn by the said William N. Boggs, then and there teller as aforesaid, under the laws of the United States, and the said Ezekiel T. Cooper, and the said William N. 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All work is pressed and finished for the following prices:

GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING.	
CLEANED	
Suits French Dry Cleaned	\$1.50
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Overcoats Dry Cleaned	1.00
Overcoats Soured	.75

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210 West Seventh Street, between Orange and Tenth Sts., Wilmington, Del.

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Lumber...

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BUILDING LUMBER of all kinds

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Yellow Pine and Hemlock Frame,

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and Fencing, Siding, Flooring, Shingles.

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Roofing Lath, Plastering Laths

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BUILDING AND AGRICULTURAL

...LIME...

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PICKET FENCE.

BEST VEINS OF

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FULL STOCK! LARGE VARIETY!

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Commission Merchant,

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OFFICE ON RAILROAD AVENUE

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Has Removed from

NOS. 7 AND 9 FRENCH STREET TO

No. 122 Market St.

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Meals at All Hours.

Roast Dinners and Poultry—the

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WE are now open for the

fall and winter season.

Highest Cash Prices Paid for

Live & Poultry

Dressed and

Game, Eggs and Squabs.

Every day in the week. Also

Fruit and Produce bought or

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Fits Cured

Geo. L. Jones, 700 Delaware Avenue, Wilmington, Del.

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—IN— MARBLE AND GRANITE

Wilmington, Del.

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Choice Cut Flowers, Floral Designs and Wedding Decorations

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Feb. 12/15

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This Company is Mutual, and you will only pay what the Insurance Costs, as any Amount in Excess of Cost will be Returned in Dividends or at Termination of Policy

W. M. ENNEY, Sec'y

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Agents, Townsboro, Delaware City.

Security Trust and Safe Deposit

Company,

619 Market St. Wilmington, Del.

CAPITAL (full paid) \$500,000

Surplus, \$100,000

Undivided Profits, \$37,318

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GENERAL TRUST BUSINESS

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Management of Real Estate and to the Collection and Remittance of Rents, Interest on Securities and Dividends

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In Its New Burglar and Fire-proof Vault, Make ample provision in Store Room and Vault for the safe keeping of Securities and Valuable packages placed in its custody.

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WM. B. BRINKLEY, JOHN S. ROSSELL, Vice-Pres.

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If you are out of employment and want a position, paying you from \$8 to \$100 monthly, clear above expenses by working regularly, or if you want to increase your present income from \$20 to \$100 weekly, by working at odd times, write the GLOBE CO., 728 Chestnut St. Phila., Pa., stating age, education, and whether single, last or present employment, and you can make more money easier and faster than you ever made before in your life.

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Another forty-four stout men tell us that if we still sell "Hamburger-Made-Stout-Guit" we can fit him and if we don't sell that sort we can't. We assured him that as long as there was "Hamburger-Made" to be had, we'll show no others. He was promptly fitted in a suit and with a well pleased countenance, congratulated us for having what he said is the only ready made clothing that will fit men of his build and that is equal to custom made.

This is only one sample. Many men tell us like stories. We are glad we have "Hamburger-Made" and you'll know why if you ever wear any.

Open every evening.

LOUIS BERNEY & CO.,

(Formerly Hamburg's.)

220-222 Market St., Wilmington, Del.

Middletown Directory.

Municipal Officers.

President, J. F. McWhorter; Secretary, J. A. Sargent; Clerk, Charles E. Howell; George G. Howe, Wm. H. Cochran.

BANKS.

Peoples National Bank—President, G. W. W. Naudin; Cashier, Geo. D. Kelley; Tellers, W. G. Lockwood, Bank Building on East 10th St.

Citizens National Bank—President, Joseph B. Cashier, John H. Crouch; Tellers, J. H. Darrington, Bank Building on South Broad Street.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Middletown Council No. 2, J. P. O. U. A. M. Meets every Monday night in McWhorter's Hall.

Union Lodge No. 5, A. F. & A. M. Meets first Tuesday of each month in F. Hall.

Wood Samarium Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F. Meets every Thursday night in McWhorter's Hall.

Damon Lodge No. 12, K. of P. Meets every Wednesday night in McWhorter's Hall at 8 o'clock.

Major John Jones Post No. 22, G. A. R. Meets every Friday night in Reynolds Building at 7 o'clock.

Yellow Conclave Heptasophs. Meets every second and fourth Friday night in K. of P. Hall.

Union Lodge No. 6, A. O. U. W. Meets every 4th Tuesday night in McWhorter's Hall.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Vaulteer House Company, meets first Friday night of each month in Howe House.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL. MAY 21, 1898

[CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.]

The Kindness Of

Goddard Goodenough.

By JOHN J. AEBOKET.

Goodenough was thoroughly aroused now. Of course it would have been better if he had been moved, that he hoped to force his hand by showing thus abruptly his own knowledge of it. Despite the young man's control his countenance betrayed the most utter surprise. Recovering himself quickly, he raised his revolver, and Goodenough, with it and said sternly: "Take the key out of my pocket and open that bedroom door. Take down the box and bring it here. If you make the slightest movement except to do this, I promise you I will shoot and tugged at the bell. The house was perfectly dark. He got no answer to his ring, nor to the others which he gave. Leaving the house, still more perturbed in his feelings, he encountered the policeman whose beat it was and inquired of him who lived in the house.

"The cook across the way," said the policeman, "says it's a foreigner and his wife. They've only been here about a month. The house was unrented when they took it. He's a black fellow, but his wife ain't a bad looking. She's delicate, but she's got a pair of eyes in her head. She can use 'em, you bet!"

The policeman swung his lantern and glanced as if the lady had vociferated him a glance or two.

"Black eyes, I suppose?" ventured Goodenough as a feeler.

"Black nothing!" retorted the officer. "Green—green like a cat's, and they've got a grip on 'em, like a cat's claws. Friends of yours?"

"No," replied Goodenough hastily. "I probably mistook the number of the house. I never heard of this couple. Good night, officer."

He turned and walked away. He was pretty well rattled now, and his confidence in Mrs. Wheeler was thoroughly shaken. He had recognized her beyond the possibility of a doubt. He had been necessary to be knew not what. He went round by Wheeler's room. There was a light in the windows on the top floor. He must have come home about the time she had said. This looked a little better, but Goodenough was still troubled enough to act on a plan he had thought out on his way, one rather creditable to so quiet and conventional a young man. He rang the bell with a sense that he was getting pretty well mixed up in other people's affairs. After time enough to admit of some one coming from the top floor, one rather young man of about 30, tallish, but quickly dressed, stood regarding Goodenough with a clear, penetrating gaze. He had to Goodenough a foreign American look. "Is Mr. Wheeler in?" asked Goodenough briskly.

"Yes, I am he," replied the other tersely.

This was encouraging. Mr. Wheeler had materialized all right. Goodenough proceeded on the lines he had mapped out.

"I am from the —," he said with some assurance, mentioning one of the

"Hold it as steadily as you can and don't let it drop. Pitch it out of the window, but put your arms through first. Do not throw it from the inside of the room," said his host.

Encouraged by such advice, though trembling with excitement, Goodenough reached the window, stretched well out and flung the box into the street.

A frightful detonation followed. This was accompanied by the crash of other things, and a minute or two later the windows and its sharp crackle as the fragments dropped to the sidewalk. The windows of Mr. Wheeler's apartment rattled with the concussion, but were not broken.

With a face as white as a sheet and his legs so weak he could hardly stand, Goodenough tottered to the nearest street and fell into it speechless, regarding the young man with an expression of horror. The other still kept the pistol pointed at him, but seemed much more at his ease, as if relieved notably.

"You will not object to my searching you probably after this little episode, which apparently," he laid a stress on the word, "has been more of a surprise to you than to me. You must admit that I have been probably mistaking a stranger who kindly provided me with such a companion for the night as that little box. Do not be alarmed," he continued lightly. "I am nearly certain that you were only a dupe. But one must take ordinary precautions."

He quickly went through Goodenough's pockets with his left hand while he kept the cooked revolver aimed at him all the time with his right. Naturally the pockets revealed nothing more dangerous than a small safe and a pocketknife. Goodenough had kept his arms stretched straight up all the time with the most earnest spirit of cooperation.

"Yes, you are only a fool, I think," the other remarked when he had satisfied himself as to the contents of the other's pockets. "Even that unflattering remark may have to be qualified when I hear your explanation. If you are not probably all right, and he was half sorry he had come. He must not be a 'queer' the poor wife and spoil all he had done in her behalf by any false move."

"Mr. Wheeler," he said, with the easy, somewhat familiar air he imagined a reporter would assume, "there has been a report handed in at the office that some important move is meditated by a large estate of which you are one of the executors. Can you give any details about the matter for publication?"

The other young man had sat perfectly motionless, his eyes fixed on Goodenough unwaveringly. He kept them still more steadily—in fact, rather piercingly—fixed on him as he replied, with some decision: "You will have to be more specific. I haven't the least idea to what you refer."

"The report was that you and the other two executors had withdrawn important documents from the safety vault, and were to arrange the details of this transaction with the heirs very soon," returned Goodenough, trying to meet the other's scrutiny with nonchalance.

The young man had taken in his visitor in great detail. Before answering him he quickly arose, stepped to the door of his apartment and looked in; then looked back to the bedroom. Goodenough began to feel that he was in for an adventure. He was not absolutely comfortable.

The young man came back, stood in front of him, and letting his right hand swing round toward his hip pocket, remarked with great deliberation: "I have nothing to do with any estate, I have never been an executor and know nothing whatever of the subject of which you speak."

"Perhaps," returned Goodenough, a little lamely, "the matter concerning the transaction of the moment, 'it may have been your wife who is the person interested.'"

The young man's expression showed a trace of irritation, but his coolness did not forsake him. "I have no wife and never had one. You may please state at once who the devil you are and what the devil you are after?"

These questions were put savagely and were rendered unduly or at least unpleasantly emphatic by his drawing a small six shooter from his pocket with a businesslike manner. He held it with his finger on the trigger.

"I am afraid," said Goodenough, feeling a movement of temper himself, but striving to retain his composure, "that I am a tremendous fool. You may wish to convince me of it. But, first, do you object to telling me what that box of documents is doing on top of your folding bed?"

He was so confident that Mr. Wheeler had seen the light from the fact that it had been moved, that he hoped to force his hand by showing thus abruptly his own knowledge of it. Despite the young man's control his countenance betrayed the most utter surprise. Recovering himself quickly, he raised his revolver, and Goodenough, with it and said sternly: "Take the key out of my pocket and open that bedroom door. Take down the box and bring it here. If you make the slightest movement except to do this, I promise you I will shoot and tugged at the bell. The house was perfectly dark. He got no answer to his ring, nor to the others which he gave. Leaving the house, still more perturbed in his feelings, he encountered the policeman whose beat it was and inquired of him who lived in the house.

"The cook across the way," said the policeman, "says it's a foreigner and his wife. They've only been here about a month. The house was unrented when they took it. He's a black fellow, but his wife ain't a bad looking. She's delicate, but she's got a pair of eyes in her head. She can use 'em, you bet!"

The policeman swung his lantern and glanced as if the lady had vociferated him a glance or two.

"Black eyes, I suppose?" ventured Goodenough as a feeler.

"Black nothing!" retorted the officer. "Green—green like a cat's, and they've got a grip on 'em, like a cat's claws. Friends of yours?"

"No," replied Goodenough hastily. "I probably mistook the number of the house. I never heard of this couple. Good night, officer."

He turned and walked away. He was pretty well rattled now, and his confidence in Mrs. Wheeler was thoroughly shaken. He had recognized her beyond the possibility of a doubt. He had been necessary to be knew not what. He went round by Wheeler's room. There was a light in the windows on the top floor. He must have come home about the time she had said. This looked a little better, but Goodenough was still troubled enough to act on a plan he had thought out on his way, one rather creditable to so quiet and conventional a young man. He rang the bell with a sense that he was getting pretty well mixed up in other people's affairs. After time enough to admit of some one coming from the top floor, one rather young man of about 30, tallish, but quickly dressed, stood regarding Goodenough with a clear, penetrating gaze. He had to Goodenough a foreign American look. "Is Mr. Wheeler in?" asked Goodenough briskly.

"Yes, I am he," replied the other tersely.

This was encouraging. Mr. Wheeler had materialized all right. Goodenough proceeded on the lines he had mapped out.

"I am from the —," he said with some assurance, mentioning one of the

"Hold it as steadily as you can and don't let it drop. Pitch it out of the window, but put your arms through first. Do not throw it from the inside of the room," said his host.

Encouraged by such advice, though trembling with excitement, Goodenough reached the window, stretched well out and flung the box into the street.

A frightful detonation followed. This was accompanied by the crash of other things, and a minute or two later the windows and its sharp crackle as the fragments dropped to the sidewalk. The windows of Mr. Wheeler's apartment rattled with the concussion, but were not broken.

With a face as white as a sheet and his legs so weak he could hardly stand, Goodenough tottered to the nearest street and fell into it speechless, regarding the young man with an expression of horror. The other still kept the pistol pointed at him, but seemed much more at his ease, as if relieved notably.

"You will not object to my searching you probably after this little episode, which apparently," he laid a stress on the word, "has been more of a surprise to you than to me. You must admit that I have been probably mistaking a stranger who kindly provided me with such a companion for the night as that little box. Do not be alarmed," he continued lightly. "I am nearly certain that you were only a dupe. But one must take ordinary precautions."

He quickly went through Goodenough's pockets with his left hand while he kept the cooked revolver aimed at him all the time with his right. Naturally the pockets revealed nothing more dangerous than a small safe and a pocketknife. Goodenough had kept his arms stretched straight up all the time with the most earnest spirit of cooperation.

"Yes, you are only a fool, I think," the other remarked when he had satisfied himself as to the contents of the other's pockets. "Even that unflattering remark may have to be qualified when I hear your explanation. If you are not probably all right, and he was half sorry he had come. He must not be a 'queer' the poor wife and spoil all he had done in her behalf by any false move."

"Mr. Wheeler," he said, with the easy, somewhat familiar air he imagined a reporter would assume, "there has been a report handed in at the office that some important move is meditated by a large estate of which you are one of the executors. Can you give any details about the matter for publication?"

The other young man had sat perfectly motionless, his eyes fixed on Goodenough unwaveringly. He kept them still more steadily—in fact, rather piercingly—fixed on him as he replied, with some decision: "You will have to be more specific. I haven't the least idea to what you refer."

"The report was that you and the other two executors had withdrawn important documents from the safety vault, and were to arrange the details of this transaction with the heirs very soon," returned Goodenough, trying to meet the other's scrutiny with nonchalance.

photo and preceded him into the sitting room.

The young man poured brandy and soda into two long glasses and presented one to Goodenough, who accepted it with alacrity and took a big draft from it. The young man, who had not lost his sangfroid throughout, was now the debaucher host, as much at ease as if he were entertaining an agreeable and habitual evening caller. He pushed a tray of Russian cigarettes as large as one's little finger toward his guest and, having lit one himself, listened most attentively without interrupting him once, while Goodenough, who began by giving his full name and address, recounted the whole story of his connection with the box.

"I can hardly blame you," he said when Goodenough was through. "You were simply too quietly kind to a fascinating and helpless woman. It was a mainly instinct, goodly enough. A clever woman, that she must have made up most of her story while she was with you in the cab. Everything, yourself included, played into her hand. The story, under the circumstances, was plausible enough. If she had not got you to do it, she would have got some one else or have done it herself. So don't feel too badly over it. No harm has been done."

"That dark man with her is undoubtedly one of those Russian nihilists who are skilled in robbing and killing and in fending machines. It was an excellent brand he selected on this occasion. And the devilish craftiness of making the little box so that it would run along on its own legs! All it wanted was a start in life. If it had dropped from the top of the bed to the floor, as it certainly would have done had you not called, the infernal thing would have exploded without a doubt. It made quite a nice hole in the street and damaged plenty of windows. The police will probably try to find out how we can give any information about it. I suppose you will allow the whole truth to come out. The cabman will probably tell what he knows, although I'm not sure how far he was in himself. These nihilists are a dangerous set. I fancy it was good consideration for me more than for you that made her select a rubber tired cab and order the cabby to drive her slow. She didn't want the little bomb to waste its sweetness on the desert air by annihilating you and the cab in the street."

"But you are probably curious to know the why and wherefore of this attempt on my life," continued the young man, after taking a puff at his brandy and soda. He blew a fragrant puff of smoke from his cigarette and stretched out more comfortably in his chair.

"I am Prince Serge Malatovsky, a Russian. I have been in this country six months. Here I assumed the name of William Wheeler, feeling that what income a very small one, and my manner of life, my title would only be in the way. Russians learn to speak English so well that they hardly are told from the natives. I add a little to my income by writing."

"Sixty before I left Russia, by a mere stroke of luck I discovered a nihilist, plot against a high official who was a staunch worker against these miserable revolutionaries. Owing to this discovery the ringleader, a young Russian, named Olga Baranoff, was arrested. Olga Baranoff, your beguiling woman friend of the cab, were engaged to be married. I have learned lately that she solemnly swore to have my life as a joint aim to nihilism and herself for her lover's execution."

"About a month ago," continued the prince, "I needed a secretary for some work I had in hand. This young woman presented herself. I had never seen her before. I must admit that she filled the bill admirably—prompt, neat, quiet and unassuming. Naturally she got to know my habits thoroughly. As a matter of fact, I am as methodical as old virgin and in many respects as regular as a clock. I invariably return home about 10, for instance, and retire at 12."

"She was a fascinating woman," said Prince Malatovsky thoughtfully and with a faint smile, "captivatingly proper. With a childlike insensibility to conventionalities, she was, on the other hand, so womanly that she would not allow me to touch her ungloved hand. I did not know then what an aching hatred for me helped to fortify her in this maidenly reserve. In subtle ways she was wonderfully alluring. I think it was very probably her nature to meet her wishes in the cab. During the day I am out a great deal, and it was my own suggestion that she should have a key to the apartment and come in and do the writing at any time."

"A fortnight ago I received a letter from St. Petersburg telling me that Olga Baranoff had gone to America and that she had sworn not to return to Russia until she had sent me to my tomb. I am afraid now, that she is here, that she will not keep that oath. A minute